

Scientists at IIT design novel wound healing patch

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A team of scientists at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras has developed a new material that can be used to make patches to help in healing of wounds and in preventing infection. The patch was able to heal scratch wounds completely in 24 hours and also kill pathogens like *S. aureus* and *M.tuberculosis*.

The team embedded silver oxide nanoparticles on silk fibre to design this new material.

The silk patch was found to be more effective than the commercially used antibiotic, ciprofloxacin.

The silk material was able to maintain the moisture and had ideal water-holding capacity.

The team intends to test the synergistic wound-healing and antibacterial activities of this silk patch on animal models and then go ahead for commercialising it for clinical use.